

## Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 EUR-25 INRE-00 AF-10

ACDA-19 EB-11 SAB-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 CCO-00 OMB-01

(ISO) W

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O R 151458Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1870

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 1564

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, SY, US

SUBJ: ALLEGED US PROPOSAL ON ISRAELI-SYRIAN

SEPARATION OF FORCES

REF: TEL AVIV 1499

1. HAARETZ COMMENTATORS GOLAN AND MARGALIT MARCH 15 ANALYZE ALLEGED US PROPOSAL FOR ISRAELI-SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT WHICH, THEY CLAIM, SECRETARY PLANS TO TAKE TO MOSCOW LATER THIS MONTH, GOLAN AND MARGALIT CLAIM THAT , INSTEAD OF SIMPLY ASKING SOVIETS NOT TO PLACE OBSTACLES IN WAY OF ISRAELI-SYRIAN NEGOTIATIONS, SECRETARY HAS DECIDED THAT SPECIFIC PROPOSAL MUST BE PUT TO SOVIETS ON ASSUMPTION THAT THEIR AGREEMENT IS PRECONDITION TO SYRIAN COOPERATION.

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2. AFTER REVIEWING BACKGROUND OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS RE SYRIA INCLUDING GROMYKO VISIT TO DAMASCUS MARCH 5-7 AND SYRIAN DECISION TO ESCALATE MILITARY TENSION ON NORTHERN FRONTIER IN " LIMITED WAR OF ATTRITION," ARTICLE OUTLINES ELEMENTS OF ALLEGED US DISENGAGEMENT PROPOSAL: (A) ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SALIENT OCCUPIED BY IDF IN OCTOBER WAR; (B) ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM POSITIONS HELD BY SYRIA ON MOUNT HERMON BEFORE OCTOBER WAR; (C) ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM PART OF GOLAN HEIGHTS, APPARENTLY REGION AROUND AND INCLUDING KUNEITRA; (D) DEMILITARIZATION OF TERRITORIES TO BE EVACUATED BY IDF; (E) THINNING OUT OF FORCES, ON BOTH SIDES, IN A TERRITORIAL DEPTH TO BE DETERMINED.

3. MARGALIT AND GOLAN OBSERVE THAT POINT (C) IS MOST PROBLEMATIC, NOT ON ACCOUNT OF AMOUNT OF TERRITORY INVOLVED, BUT RATHER BECAUSE OF PRINCIPLE OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM GOLAN HEIGHTS. THEY ADD THAT SECRETARY APPARENTLY HAS REACHED

CONCLUSION THAT, WITHOUT THE " SWEETENER" (OR " CARROT") OF KUNEITRA, IT MIGHT BE IMPOSSIBLE TO GET SYRIAN ADHERENCE TO DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT, AND THAT HE HAS ALREADY MADE THIS POINT, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, TO ISRAELI LEADERS.

4. IN ANALYZING SOVIET ROLE, MARGALIT AND GOLAN STATE THAT SOVIETS ARE DETERMINED TO PREVENT REPETITION OF EXPERIENCE OF HAVING BEEN EXCLUDED FROM EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS. WHILE MOSCOW WANTS TO CONTINUE DETENTE POLICY, AND WILL NOT GO SO FAR AS TO FOIL NEGOTIATIONS, IT ALSO WANTS TO BE SURE THAT SYRIAN REMAINS IN SOVIET CAMP. HENCE SOVIETS ARE DETERMINED " TO DELIVER THE GOODS" TO SYRIA.

5. COMMENT. MARGALIT AND GOLAN ARE OFTEN ACCURATE INDICATORS OF ISRAELI PULSE, WITH GOOD CONNECTIONS AMONG SENIOR LEADERSHIP AND OPPOSITION. THIS ARTICLE CONFIRMS OUR VIEW (REFTEL) THAT ISRAELI CONCERNS ABOUT US PRESURE FOR WITHDRAWALS BEYOND WHAT THEY REGARD AS CONSONANT WITH THEIR SECURITY INTERESTS ARE INCREASING. EVEN DEMILITARIZATION OF AREAS FROM WHICH IDF WOULD WITHDRAW WOULD NOT REDUCE ISRAELI FEARS THAT SYRIAN RETURN TO KUNEITRA WOULD THREATEN SECURITY OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ON GOLAN HEIGHTS, SEVERAL OF WHICH ARE ONLY A FEW KILOMETERS FROM KUNEITRA.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Draft Date:** 15 MAR 1974  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Subject:** ALLEGED US PROPOSAL ON ISRAELI-SYRIAN SEPARATION OF FORCES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, IS, SY, US  
**To:** STATE  
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